



G O L D M E D A L S E R I E S

SOCIETY FOR THE PRESERVATION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF
BARBER SHOP QUARTET SINGING IN AMERICA INC.

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WORDS & MUSIC

Greg Hoeltzel

ARRANGEMENT

David Wright

OLD ST. LOUIE

as sung by The Gas House Gang

STOCK NO. 8828

Chorus

1 2 3

Tenor Lead

Bari Bass

Old St. Lou - ie, you and I sit - tin' on the lev - ee watch-in'

4 5 6

time roll by. Mam - my sings to ba - by a soft, sweet lul - la - by

7 8 9

in the eve - ning. You "Gate - way Cit - y," re -
You "Gate - way

Old St. Louie

10 mem - ber the fair?_ 11 Don't it al - most seem like 12 we're still there?_

Detailed description: This block contains the first system of musical notation, measures 10 through 12. It features a treble and bass clef staff with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). Measure 10 has a treble clef with a '10' above it and a bass clef with an '8' below it. The lyrics 'mem - ber the fair?_' are under the treble staff. Measure 11 has a treble clef with a '11' above it and a bass clef with an '8' below it. The lyrics 'Don't it al - most seem like' are under the treble staff. Measure 12 has a treble clef with a '12' above it and a bass clef with an '8' below it. The lyrics 'we're still there?_' are under the treble staff. The music consists of eighth and quarter notes with various rests and accidentals.

13 Rag - time mel - o - dies 14 float - in' in the cool night air 15

Detailed description: This block contains the second system of musical notation, measures 13 through 15. It features a treble and bass clef staff with a key signature of one flat. Measure 13 has a treble clef with a '13' above it and a bass clef with an '8' below it. The lyrics 'Rag - time mel - o - dies' are under the treble staff. Measure 14 has a treble clef with a '14' above it and a bass clef with an '8' below it. The lyrics 'float - in' in the cool night air' are under the treble staff. Measure 15 has a treble clef with a '15' above it and a bass clef with an '8' below it. The lyrics 'float - in' in the cool night air' are under the treble staff. The music includes eighth notes, quarter notes, and a half note with a fermata in measure 15.

16 down by the riv - er. 17 Steam - boats with cot - ton and 18 sug - ar - cane, _

Detailed description: This block contains the third system of musical notation, measures 16 through 18. It features a treble and bass clef staff with a key signature of one flat. Measure 16 has a treble clef with a '16' above it and a bass clef with an '8' below it. The lyrics 'down by the riv - er.' are under the treble staff. Measure 17 has a treble clef with a '17' above it and a bass clef with an '8' below it. The lyrics 'Steam - boats with cot - ton and' are under the treble staff. Measure 18 has a treble clef with a '18' above it and a bass clef with an '8' below it. The lyrics 'sug - ar - cane, _' are under the treble staff. The music consists of eighth and quarter notes.

19 ban - jos strum - min' a - way. 20 strum - min' a - way. 21 Gas - lights wink - in' down a

Detailed description: This block contains the fourth system of musical notation, measures 19 through 21. It features a treble and bass clef staff with a key signature of one flat. Measure 19 has a treble clef with a '19' above it and a bass clef with an '8' below it. The lyrics 'ban - jos strum - min' a - way.' are under the treble staff. Measure 20 has a treble clef with a '20' above it and a bass clef with an '8' below it. The lyrics 'strum - min' a - way.' are under the treble staff. Measure 21 has a treble clef with a '21' above it and a bass clef with an '8' below it. The lyrics 'Gas - lights wink - in' down a' are under the treble staff. The music consists of eighth and quarter notes.

Old St. Louie

* see performance notes

22 23 24

sleep - y lane_ will show you a glimpse of yes - ter - day._

3
St. Lou-ie

25 26 27

St. Lou - ie wom - an, you know I'll be true._ No shin - y new ci - ty's gon - na

wom - an_

28 29 30

take me from you._ You've got my love,_ old St. Lou - ie, you do,_

31 32 33

my old *ritard* St. Lou - ie. *Tag freely* You've got my love,_ my love,_

my

Old St. Louie

34

you do.

35

36

St. Lou - ie, St. Lou - ie, you do.

Performance Notes

This arrangement was sung by the arranger's first quartet, **The Quadratic Equation**, who used it in winning the Central States District contest in 1979. At that time it was considered borderline as a contest arrangement because of its "swing-rhythm" nature, but changing standards have by now affirmed its contest worthiness, and it has become popular around the Society. As of this writing, performers who sing this song in contest should change the first two tenor notes of measure 22 to D \sharp to make those chords acceptable.

The composer, Greg Hoeltzel, is an orthodontist in St. Louis who played piano in an instrumental jazz trio at the time this song was composed.

"Old St. Louie" is best performed as a slow swing tune, with a gentle syncopation, a lightly accentuated back beat, and a smooth, lilting delivery. The lyrics provide rich opportunities for color, texture, and inflection in portraying the quaint, nostalgic images. One popular interpretive option is to sing *ad lib* beginning with measure 21, returning to tempo either at measure 23 or at the bass pickup to measure 25. The tag should be sung freely and tuned carefully, with a colorful and engaging tenor melody.

As a final note: Questions about the contest suitability of this or any other song/arrangement should be directed to the judging community and measured against current contest rules. Ask *before* you sing.